

CLAIMS

What is Claimed is:

- Sub AD 1. A method for mapping a target page, comprising:
- 5 selecting a target page from a set of Web pages on a wide area network,
said target page comprising at least one hyperlink to a subordinate page;
selecting objects from said target page by applying predetermined criteria,
said objects including at least one hyperlink to a subordinate page;
selecting at least one object from said subordinate page; and
generating a map page according to a set of mapping rules, wherein said
- 10 map page contains information from each selected object.
2. A method according to Claim 1, further comprising, after said third
selecting step, the steps of:
- defining an identifier for each selected object; and
defining at least one property for each selected object;
- 15 wherein said generating step further comprises generating map data
comprising said identifier and said property for each selected object.
3. A method according to Claim 2, further comprising storing said map data
in a database.
4. A method according to Claim 3, further comprising recalling said map
- 20 data from said database in response to a request for said map data.
5. A method according to Claim 1, further comprising storing said map page
in a database.
6. A method according to Claim 5, further comprising recalling said map
page from said database in response to a request for said map page.

7. A method according to Claim 3, further comprising deleting said map data from said database after a predetermined period of time.

8. A method according to Claim 5, further comprising deleting said map page from said database after a predetermined period of time.

5 9. A method according to Claim 1, wherein said generating step generates a first map page enabling a user to select said subordinate page as a target page for a second map page, by viewing said first map page using a browser, and selecting an object on said first map page.

10 10. A method according to Claim 1, further comprising delivering said map page to a user over a wide area network.

11. A method for mapping a set of linked target pages, comprising:
selecting a set of linked target pages from Web pages on a wide area network;
selecting objects from said set of linked target pages, comprising at least
15 one link from a first target page to a second target page in said set of target pages; and
generating a map page wherein said map page contains said link.

12. A method according to Claim 11, wherein said first selecting step further comprises selecting said set of target pages from Web pages on a Web site.

20 13. A method according to Claim 11, further comprising:
(a) defining an identifier for each selected object;
(b) defining an identifier for each target page in said set of target pages;
(c) defining at least one property for each link in said selected objects,
describing said link; and
wherein said generating step further comprises generating map data
25 comprising said identifier and said property for each selected object.

14. A method according to Claim 11, wherein said generating step comprises generating a first map page wherein said first map page enables a user to select a second Web page as a target page for a second map page, by viewing said first map page using a browser, and selecting said link on said first map page.

5 15. A method according to Claim 11, further comprising storing said map page in a database.

16. A method according to Claim 15, further comprising recalling said map page from said database in response to a request for said map page.

10 17. A method according to Claim 15, further comprising deleting said map page from said database after a predetermined period of time.

18. A method according to Claim 13, further comprising storing said map data in a database.

19. A method according to Claim 18, further comprising recalling said map data from said database in response to a request for said map data.

15 20. A method according to Claim 18, further comprising deleting said map data from said database after a predetermined period of time.

21. A method according to Claim 20, further comprising storing said map page in a database, and deleting said map page from said database after a predetermined period of time.

20 22. A method according to Claim 11, further comprising delivering said map page to a user over a wide area network.

23. A method according to Claim 13, further comprising delivering said map data to a user over a wide area network.

24. A computer-implemented system for mapping a Web page on a wide area network, comprising:

a Web host connected to said network comprising a first Web server having a map generator application executing thereon; and

a database connected to said first Web server;

wherein said map generator application performs the functions of:

(a) selecting a target page from a set of Web pages on a wide area network, said target page comprising at least one hyperlink to a subordinate page;

(b) selecting objects from said target page by applying predetermined criteria, said objects including at least one hyperlink to a subordinate page;

(c) selecting at least one object from said subordinate page; and

(d) generating a map page according to a set of mapping rules, wherein said map page contains information from each selected object.

25. A computer-implemented system according to Claim 24, wherein said map generator application further performs the functions of:

(e) defining an identifier for each selected object;

(f) defining at least one property for each selected object; and

(g) generating map data comprising said identifier and said property for each selected object.

26. A system according to Claim 25, wherein said map generator application further performs the function of storing said map data in a database.

27. A system according to Claim 26, wherein said map generator application further performs the function of recalling said map data from said database in response to a user request for said map page.

28. A system according to Claim 24, wherein said map generator application further performs the function of storing said map page in a database.

29. A system according to Claim 28, wherein said map generator application further performs the function of recalling said map page from said database in response to a user request for said map page.

30. A system according to Claim 26, wherein said map generator application further performs the function of deleting said map data from said database after a predetermined first period of time.

31. A system according to Claim 26, wherein said map generator application further performs the function of storing said map page in a database.

32. A system according to Claim 31, wherein said map generator application further performs the function of deleting said map page from said database after a predetermined period of time.

33. A system according to Claim 24, wherein said map generator application further performs the function of delivering said map page to a user over a wide area network.

34. A system according to Claim 24, wherein said map generator application further performs the function of generating a first map page wherein said first map page enables a user to select a second Web page as a target page for a second map page, by selecting a command using a browser while viewing said first map page.

35. A system according to Claim 34, wherein said map generator application further performs the function of generating an object on said first map page, wherein said object enables a user to select said command by selecting said object.

36. A computer-implemented system for mapping a Web page on a wide area network, comprising:

a Web host connected to said network comprising a first Web server having a map generator application executing thereon; and

a database connected to said first Web server;

wherein said map generator application performs the functions of:

(a) selecting a set of linked target pages from a set of Web pages on said network;

(b) selecting objects from said set of linked target pages, comprising at least one link from a first target page to a second target page in said set of target pages, by applying predetermined selection criteria; and

(c) generating a map page wherein said map page contains said link.

37. A system according to Claim 36, wherein said map generator application further performs the functions of:

(d) defining an identifier for each selected object;

(e) defining an identifier for each target page in said set of target pages;

(f) defining at least one property for each selected object, describing said object; and

(g) generating said map data comprising said identifiers and said properties.

38. A system according to Claim 36, wherein said map generator application further performs the function of generating a first map page wherein said first map page enables a user to select a second Web page as a target page for a second map page, by viewing said first map page using a browser, and selecting said link on said first map page.

39. A system according to Claim 37, wherein said map generator application further performs the function of generating a first map page wherein said first map page enables a user to select a second Web page as a target page for a second map page, by viewing said first map page using a browser, and selecting an object on said first map page.

40. A system according to Claim 36, wherein said map generator application further performs the function of storing said map page in a database.

41. A system according to Claim 40, wherein said map generator application further performs the function of recalling said map page from said database in response to a request for said map page.

42. A system according to Claim 41, wherein said map generator application further performs the function of deleting said map page from said database after a predetermined period of time.

43. A system according to Claim 37, wherein said map generator application further performs the function of storing said map data in a database.

44. A system according to Claim 43, wherein said map generator application further performs the function of recalling said map data from said database in response to a request for said map page.

45. A system according to Claim 44, wherein said map generator application further performs the function of deleting said map data from said database after a predetermined period of time.

46. A system according to Claim 36, wherein said map generator application further performs the function of delivering said map page to a user over a wide area network.

47. A system according to Claim 37, wherein said map generator application further performs the function of delivering said map data to a user over a wide area network.

48. A system according to Claim 47, wherein said map generator application
5 further comprises an application module on a client computer for performing the function
of generating a map page from said map data.

49. A system according to Claim 48, wherein said application module is a distributable application delivered by said map generator application to said user computer.

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